FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

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MAY - JUNE 1981

REVIEWED:

PARIS PRET-A-PORTER

MILAN READY-TO-WEAR

LONDON READY-TO-WEAR

AMERICAN READY-TO-WEAR

FIBER PROJECTIONS

FI HIGHLIGHT

PARIS -- AUTUMN/WINTER 1981-'82
RETROSPECTIVE ... LAYERED ... AMPLE

OVERVIEW: Paris -- in the knowledge that outrageous garments, made for runway impact, are no longer appealing -- chose retro for its theme. The clothes reflect evolutionary, rather than revolutionary changes. Designers opted for multi-layered, ample apparel in new proportions. Although hemlines vary with the voluminous silhouette, longer is more directional. Focus is centered on the waist via wide cinch belts and shaped bodices. Folkloric continues...points of inspiration include China, Japan, Russia and Central America. After-five dressing ranges from ever-popular "tuxedo" to lavish ball gowns.

Following the trend set at the 44th Interstoff last November, fabrics are luxurious, expensive, of superb quality. Gold and glitter was much in evidence for day. Evening knits were abundant from softly brushed or hairy surfaces to pointelles, oversized and folkloric jacquards, stripes, fleece blanket looks and loopy raschelle and chenille.

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FALL READY-TO-WEAR:
PARIS IS PARTIAL TO: FABRIC (LOTS OF IT), BODY WRAPPERS, CINCHED WAISTS & PANTS

Fabric: Lots of it, always soft, sinuous, supple; swirling around the body in a controlled manner. The look is cleancut--either sophisticated classics or romanticized sportswear: lace collars on tweed and whipcords.

BODY WRAPPERS: Great blankety throws and stoles over everything...coats move; capes swirl...PANTS, from britches and knickers to no-nonsense trousers under everything--under jackets, capes, dresses...even skirts "wear" them... MOST WAISTLINES are marked and/or widely cinched--belt makers will have a field day--chemises return in novel new shapes.

COATS, belted or not, many blanket coats; even the longest are gracefully posed over dark, crushy suede boots--or pants...Duffels: Brushed wool for day, velvet for night: YVES ST. LAURENT... Hooded, day wools, evening lames: DIOR ...7/8: Plaid swaggers; cocoon to top chemise: YSL...Raincoats: Color of leaden skies, exaggerated double yokes: DIOR...Tightly belted black poplin, leather inserts: MONTANA...Black cire: MUGLER.

CAPES of all lengths whirl to add dash. Swingy: DIOR...Shetland: MONTANA... Swirling: GRES...Soft and swirling, velvet yoked: YSL...Roomy, fur-bordered suede: SCHERRER...Shot, over pantsuits: MONTANA...Jacquard knit over leather knickers: GIVENCHY.

DRESSES, a vital category again, often over trousers: CHEMISES: Butterfly, full-sleeve, rounded then tapered to hobble-width, above-knee hem, in brush stroke & loral prints: YSL...Longish and wide: MUGLER...BLOUSONS: Diamond-knit, velvet trim/velvet skirt: YSL... OVER MATCHING TROUSERS: Longish, full-skirted, corselet-belted grey flannel, military coatdress; various longs layered over pants or boots: CHLOE.

IMPORTANT FABRICS: Grey flannel, Donegal & Harris tweed often combined with lace; knits, jacquards, velvets before and after dark, metalized, mixes of fabrics, patterns, colors; cashmere mohair.

COLORS: Black is #1. Prints: Folkloric motifs, paisley, tapestry, oversized floral, especially cabbage roses. Scenic: Geometric, figurative, border. Mix of patterns important.

ACCESSORIES are bold but simple to form the perfect foil for all that swirling fabric: 1940's wrap-around turbans and scarf hats; large close-fitting; face-framing brims...Big beads and earrings...Corselet, cummerbund, wraparound and double belts.

MILAN MEANS: AMPLENESS, PANT-MANIA, GOLD & LEATHER

Bold colors, ample forms, intricate embroideries are the keynotes. The exotic winds of Japan & China sweep through the Fall RTW. Running a close second: country Tyrolean & Medieval monk.

AMPLENESS IN EVERYTHING: Deep kimono sleeves on black velvet tunics: ARMANI; easy wool jersey obi-wrapped at hips: MIGUEL CRUZ; arbitrarily belted blousons: PIMS; swingy-circle skirts under long torso pullovers: CORREGGIARI; Himalayan-inspired ponchos: SPORTMAX.

PANT-MANIA STILL GOES ON: Tubular jerseys under peplum dresses: LELUX; bouffant bloomers in

stiff taffetas and mannish wool checks: ERREUNO; dandyish knicks in solid velvets under paisley vests: SPORTMAX; trapezio culottes in evening silks & daytime wools: ARMANI; elasticized paratrooper styles: BYLBOS.

GOLD TRIM'S THE THING: Piping, embroidery, dangly tassels. Gold satin, cire & lame piping on bright lacquer grounds: ARMANI; the emblem of longevity embroidered on dorsos of knit tunics: KNOBINES; lurex insets on black tunics: LANCETTI; gold-flecked striped T-shirts: MARLYS; stellar constellations on white kid mohairs: I VETTIGANO.

EVERYONE'S INTO LEATHER: Suede, kid, nappa, cire, metallics. Quilted kid jackets, Bermudas and pith helmets: ARMANI; quilted suedes with Morrocan-inspired gold embroidery: BALESTRA; contrasting leathers wedded to bulky knits: LESY; embroidered suede epaulettes on white angoras: MILENA MOSELE; black pin seal trousers split from knee to ankle: CORREGGIARI; the Tyrolean lass in leather/loden combinations: CRUZ; black cire pants, jeweled red cire camisoles: SAN LORENZO.

KNITS GALORE: Supple wool jersey dresses sparked with contrasting cummerbunds: SAN LORENZO; fluffy mohair sweaters, shiny ribbon trim: RUBINACCI; woven/knit paisleys in deep, jewel tones: RANOTTO; curly lamb looks in bulky chenilles: BALESTRA; woven silk intarsias, chenille floral appliques on lambswool pullovers: MILENA MOSELLE: Nepal-inspired hand knits: ELI COLAJ.

FABRIC COMBINATIONS ARE NEWEST: Mannish pinstripes wedded to ultra-feminine silks; geometric jacquards combine with crisp taffetas; velvet and satins join forces; wool paisley knits go tandem with matching cashmeres & silks; tapestry motifs stand on their own or are combined with solids.

ORIENTAL BRIGHTS SHARE SPOTLIGHT WITH SUBDUED TONES: Oodles of lacquer reds, Ming blues, jade greens. Golds galore as well as exotic blacks. And then, loden green, deep Burgundy, monastic white & grey. Many shock combinations: lacquer/jade; Ming blue/gold; lacquer/black.

ACCESSORIES TIE EVERYTHING TOGETHER: Flat ballerinas in dark neutrals; flashy metallics; the brief, ankle-high bootlet; matte-finish stocking to match outfits; crushy sashes, metallic leather belts; tassel cord ties. Giant Oriental pendants in bright gold; myriads of gold bangle bracelets; Madame Butterfly hair ornaments.

LONDON LOVES: ROMANTIC & UP-COMING TREND: PIRATES & BUCCANEERS

The forthcoming wedding put a Romantic Glow on everything making fashion come alive with a youthful flare. The ultimate fabric luxury: cashmere, silk, leather. Many minis for evening.

The billowing ballgown: DAVID & ELIZABETH EMANUEL; Abstract pattern (in greens and blues); Gold flower printed jersey dress, long skirt: JEAN MUIR.

Partial to Pirates: Oversize sashed shirt, white cotton culottes: VIVIENNE WESTWOOD.

London, After-Dark: Gold, gold, and more gold: ZANDRA RHODES; Red chiffon miniskirted-tiered evening dress: PAUL HOWIE; Satin breeches topped with lace camisole: ROLAND KLEIN.

Smock-topping for the narrow skirt: The silk-printed smock: ROLAND KLEIN;

The fashion industry in London is following the Magic Mood set by Lady Di.

AMERICAN FALL READY-TO-WEAR
VARIETY ... LUXURY ... SOFTNESS

This year's Fall fashions offer an unlimited scope. There's variety in skirt and dress lengths. There's a choice in lengths and types of pants.

After the success story of the pantskirt and the culotte, most prominent will be: Jodphurs, knickers, plus fours, harem.

The huge "Cover All" is special because of its shaping and weightlessness.

Luxury is the keynote of the fabrics. Cashmere, often cashmere with suede, silk, printed suedes, velvet, lurex, tweeds, mohair.

Color has a new intensity: rich jewel tones of garnet, topaz, onyx, bronze, olive, plum, rust, cordovan.

FLUIDITY in softly sculptured suede or wool tops, narrow pants or full skirt. Cashmere wrap tops are shown with contrasting culottes.

EVENING ELEGANCE...Double faced full satin pants, sequined and beaded tops...soft, suede tops too. And GLITTER everywhere.

KNITS feature longer tunics and easy blouson. Myriad pattern effects in a diversity of yarns -- clean modern lines with ethnic touches. Many intarsia or jacquard patterns, with solid color ribbing. Bloused or zouave pants are combined with unstructured jackets ... some with jumper tops.

DRESSES ... chemises and separates ...Gold lame, long dress, is often accompanied by a mohair or cashmere coat. Patterned and solid color ribbed effect combine for the CHEMISE.

FIBER FIRM PROJECTIONS--
SPRING 1982

TOUCHES OF METALLIC gold & bronze threads are slated to add a note of understated luxury--for everyday dressing.

Fabrics will be lightweight and have a soft and comfortable hand: Open weaves, shadow sheers, lenos, linen looks, dobbies; gauze, muslin effects, basket weaves.

Texture will endow classics with new fashion interest: Nubs, slubs & such novelty blends as polyester cotton/flax.

COLORS more muted, or more intense

Pastels grow more muted--and sibilant: Shell pink, sunbeam, sky blue, sea green, grey mist.

Mid-tones: Hyacinth, daffodil, azalea, tiger lily, water green

Brights: Tropical green, ceremonial red, exotic blue, burnished gold, mahogany

Neutrals: Cornsilk, bamboo, ivory; safari tan, range green (khaki), bush brown

Intricate Prints will be big news, derived from new sources: Indonesia, Java, Polynesia, Persia, Turkey, Moorish

Free-form Stripings in bayadere, diagonal & broken-line, especially in companion prints

Dots in every conceivable shape, size & spacing

Stylized Japanese stencil prints offer a crisp, clean alternative to the China syndrome.

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